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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/713,744

Examiner

Son M. Tang

Applicant(s)

MARTINEZ, ANTHONY EDWARD

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2/1/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-30.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/13/06 .
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Robert Wilder on 3/10/2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the list of the claims,

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling temperature at a plurality of control points, said control points lying along an edge of an object within an airspace surrounding said object, said object being movable within said airspace, said method comprising:

obtaining actual temperatures at a plurality of said control points within said airspace using an infrared temperature sensing means ~~air space, said control points comprising points lying along an edge of an object within said airspace;~~

comparing said actual temperatures at said control points with a reference temperature database, said reference temperature database containing preferred temperatures at each respective one of said control points; and

generating control signals for application to temperature control devices, said temperature control devices being operable in response to said control signals for changing temperatures at said control points by varying air flow to each respective one

of said control points whereby said actual temperatures at each respective one of said control points are made to approach said preferred temperatures at each respective one of said control points within said airspace, wherein said airspace comprises airspace immediately surrounding said object wherein said obtaining is accomplished by said infrared temperature sensing means located to effectively sense point temperatures at said control points of said object, said temperature control devices comprising air vents located near said object to effectively control air temperature at said various control points.

5. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said temperature control devices include a controllable fan device operable in response to said control signals for controlling air flow volume discharged from said temperature control devices into said airspace ~~air-space~~ during a given period of time.

6. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 1 wherein said temperature control devices include a direction control device operable in response to said control signals for controlling direction of air flow volume discharged from said temperature control devices into said airspace ~~air-space~~.

7. (Currently Amended) The method as set forth in claim 6 wherein said temperature control devices include a controllable fan device operable in response to said control signals for controlling air flow volume discharged from said temperature control devices into said airspace ~~air-space~~ during a given period of time.

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12. (Currently Amended) A storage medium including machine readable coded indicia, said storage medium being selectively coupled to a reading device, said reading device being selectively coupled to processing circuitry within a computer system, said reading device being selectively operable to read said machine readable coded indicia and provide program signals representative thereof, said program signals being selectively operable for controlling temperature at a plurality of control points, said control points lying along an edge of an object within an airspace surrounding said object, said object being movable within said airspace, by effecting the steps of:

obtaining actual temperatures at a plurality of said control points within said airspace using an infrared temperature sensing means ~~air space, said control points comprising points lying along an edge of an object within said airspace;~~

comparing said actual temperatures at said control points with a reference temperature database, said reference temperature database containing preferred temperatures at each respective one of said control points; and

generating control signals for application to temperature control devices, said temperature control devices being operable in response to said control signals for changing temperatures at each respective one of said control points by varying air flow to each respective one of said control points whereby said actual temperatures at each respective one of said control points are made to approach said preferred temperatures at each respective one of said control points within said airspace, wherein said airspace comprises airspace immediately surrounding said object wherein said obtaining is accomplished by said infrared temperature sensing means located to effectively sense

point temperatures at said control points of said object, said temperature control devices comprising air vents located near said object to effectively control air temperature at said various control points.

16. (Currently Amended) The medium as set forth in claim 12 wherein said temperature control devices include a controllable fan device operable in response to said control signals for controlling air flow volume discharged from said temperature control devices into said airspace ~~air-space~~ during a given period of time.

17. (Currently Amended) The medium as set forth in claim 12 wherein said temperature control devices include a direction control device operable in response to said control signals for controlling direction of air flow volume discharged from said temperature control devices into said airspace ~~air-space~~.

18. (Currently Amended) The medium as set forth in claim 17 wherein said temperature control devices include a controllable fan device operable in response to said control signals for controlling air flow volume discharged from said temperature control devices into said airspace ~~air-space~~ during a given period of time.

23. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling ~~for controlling~~ temperature at a plurality of control points, said control points lying along an edge of an object within an airspace

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surrounding said object, said object being movable within said airspace, said system comprising:

a system bus;

a CPU device connected to said system bus;

memory means connected to said system bus; and

measuring means for obtaining actual temperatures at a plurality of said control points within said airspace using an infrared temperature sensing means ~~air space, said control points comprising points lying along an edge of an object within said airspace,~~ said system further including means for comparing said actual temperatures at each respective one of said control points with a reference temperature database, said reference temperature database containing preferred temperatures at each respective one of said control points, and means for generating control signals for application to temperature control devices, said temperature control devices being operable in response to said control signals for changing temperatures at each respective one of said control points by varying air flow to each respective one of said control points whereby said actual temperatures at each respective one of said control points are made to approach said preferred temperatures at each respective one of said control points within said airspace, wherein said airspace comprises airspace immediately surrounding said object wherein said obtaining is accomplished by said infrared temperature sensing means located to effectively sense point temperatures at said control points of said object, said temperature control devices comprising air vents located near said object to effectively control air temperature at said various control points.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: The present invention is directed to a method for controlling temperature. Each independent claim identifies the uniquely distinct features "a plurality of control points lying along an edge of an object within an airspace surrounding said object which is being movable within said airspace, and the temperature control devices being operable in response to a detected temperature at each respective control points, whereby varying air flow to each respective one of said control points, to made actual temperatures at each respective control points to approach the preferred temperatures at each respective control points" and "the control devices comprising air vents located near said object to effectively control air temperature at said various control points", in combination with the manner claimed. The closest prior art, Kamiya et al. US 6,202,934 disclose a similarly method, however, it fails to specify that temperature control devices providing air flow to each respective one of said control points, either singularly or in combination of art(s), fail to anticipate or render the above underlined limitations obvious.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Son M. Tang whose telephone number is (571)272-2962. The examiner can normally be reached on 4/9 First Friday off.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Daniel J. Wu can be reached on (571)272-2964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Son Tang


BENJAMIN C. LEE
PRIMARY EXAMINER